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Intrathoracic kidney with right Bochdalek's hernia

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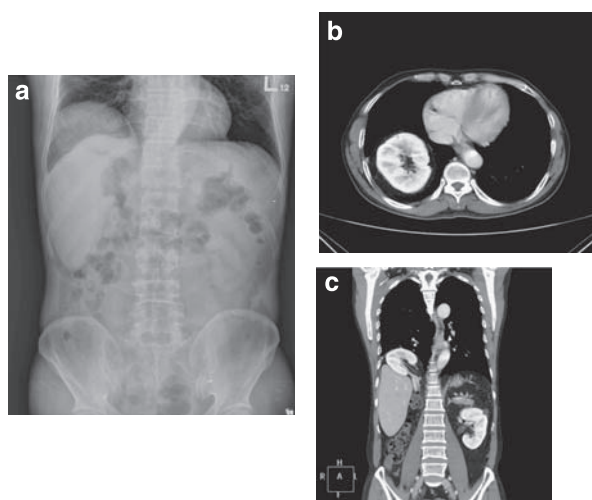


Figure 1 | Intrathoracic kidney. (a) Plain film of abdomen showed an elevated right hemidiaphragm; (b) and (c) computed tomography showed a right intrathoracic kidney.

A 55-year-old Taiwanese man presented to the emergency department with epigastric discomfort that had begun 2 days earlier. A plain film of his abdomen showed an elevated right hemidiaphragm (Figure 1a). Computed tomography revealed a right-sided intrathoracic kidney without hydronephrosis, and right hemidiaphragm with herniation, consistent with congenital, right Bochdalek's hernia (Figure 1b and c). With

resolved pain and no renal abnormalities, the patient was treated conservatively. Bochdalek's hernia is the most common form of diaphragmatic hernia, occurring in approximately 1 in 2500 births. Intrathoracic kidney is extremely rare, presenting in 1 of 10,000 cases and is most common on the left side and more common in males. This anomaly is usually discovered incidentally and specific intervention is usually not required.